

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kuroki et al.

Serial No.: 10/632,293

Conf. No.: 5077

Filed: 8/1/2003

For: PREFORMAT METHOD FOR MAGNETIC
RECORDING MEDIUM, MAGNETIC
RECORDING MEDIUM, AND MAGNETIC
RECORDING AND REPRODUCING
APPARATUS

Art Unit: 2627

Examiner: Mercedes, Dismery E.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

Feb. 7, 2007

Date

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Attorney for Applicant(s)

COPY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mail date of either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (whichever occurs first), with both:

- (a) a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e); and
- (b) the \$180.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of foreign patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

(X) The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by the Japanese Patent Office (copy enclosed). Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

() Applicant(s) hereby certify that no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Also enclosed is a copy of the Japanese Office Action Mailed December 5, 2006, a Certification, and copy of the cited reference.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

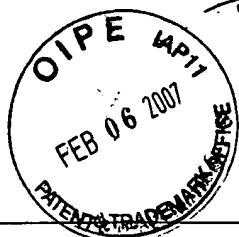
A. B. R.

Arik B. Ranson, Reg. No. 43,874

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 1100.68251	Serial No.: 10/632,293
	Applicant: Kuroda et al.	
	Filing Date: 08/01/2003	Group: 2627

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	JP 10-269566	Oct. 9, 1998	Japan			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.